GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3209
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2007
MANDATORY MEDICAL EXAMINATION BEFORE MARRIAGE
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the increasing number of AIDS patients in the country, the Government is contemplating to make any rules to make it mandatory pre-marriage medical check-up;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government has provided HIV testing facilities at village level PHCs and SPHs;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT, PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (c): As per National AIDS Prevention and Control Policy, mandatory testing for HIV is not permitted. Testing is to be carried out on a voluntary basis with appropriate pretest arid post test counseling. There is at present, no proposal for mandatory premarriage medical check-up,

(d) to (f): A total of 4027 integrated counseling and testing centres up to community health centre level have been established. The counseling and testing facilities are also being expanded, in a phased manner up to 24 hour PHCs through integration with National Rural Health Mission by training existing laboratory technicians and nurses/para medical personnel for counseling.